

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method for the transmission of transmitting~~ messages in a distributed system, the method comprising the following steps:

receiving ~~reception of~~ a message from a sending client (9) by a first message gateway;

(4);

extracting ~~transmission of~~ meta information ~~extracted from the received message;~~

transmitting the meta information from the first message gateway (4) to a message broker (2); while keeping the received message at the first message gateway;

selecting ~~selection of~~ a second message gateway (5) on the basis of the meta information and client profile data (3); and by the message broker;

transmitting modified meta information including message managing information from the message broker to the first message gateway; and

transmitting ~~sending~~ the message from the first message gateway (4) to the selected second message gateway (5) so that the second message gateway can transfer it the message to a target client (8).

2. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the message broker (2) processes the meta information to provide for security and authentication and returns it the meta information to the first message gateway (4).

3. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, characterized in that  
wherein the message broker (2) processes the meta information and returns it ~~the meta~~  
information to the first message gateway (4) and in that, and  
wherein ~~controlled by the processed meta information,~~ the message is sent to the selected  
second gateway (5) together with the meta information under the control of the processed meta  
information.

4. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, characterized in that  
wherein the message itself is converted by a message processor (7) ~~before it is~~ prior to  
being sent to the selected second message gateway (5).

5. (Currently Amended) A computer program, stored in a tangible storage medium, for  
transmission of messages in a distributed system, the program comprising executable instructions  
that cause a computer to:

receiving a message from a sending client by a first message gateway; extracting meta  
information from the received message;

transmitting the meta information from the first message gateway to a message broker  
while keeping the received message at the first message gateway;

selecting a second message gateway on the basis of the meta information and client  
profile data by the message broker;

transmitting modified meta information including message managing information from the message broker to the first message gateway; and

transmitting the message from the first message gateway to the selected second message gateway so that the second message gateway can transfer the message to a target client~~Computer program product, characterized in that it implements a method according to claim 1 when loaded in the memory of a computing device in a network environment.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A distributed ~~Distributed~~-system to transmit ~~for the transmission~~ of messages, the system comprising:

a first message gateway (4) ~~for the reception of~~ to receive messages from sending clients, said first message gateway (9) and for the extraction of ~~configured to extract~~ meta information from the received messages[[],];

a message broker (2) ~~for receiving~~ to receive only the extracted meta information from the first message gateway (4), said message broker processing the meta information and returning it ~~the processed meta information~~ to the first message gateway; (4), and

a second message gateway (5) ~~for receiving~~ to receive the message from the first message gateway (4) ~~controlled by the processed meta information, and for sending to transfer the~~ received message to a target client (8).

7. (Currently Amended) A distributed ~~Distributed~~-system according to claim 6, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising

a client profile database (3) ~~connected to the message broker (2),~~

wherein the message broker (2) processes the meta information on the basis of the data of the client profile database (3).

8. (Currently Amended) A distributed ~~Distributed~~ system according to claim 6, characterized in that

wherein the message broker (2) provides for a security and/or authentication functionality.

9. (Currently Amended) A distributed ~~Distributed~~ system according to claim 6, characterized by further comprising

a message processor (7) interconnected between the first and second message gateway (4, 5) for processing the content of the message.